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TO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA PRIORITY

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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SALT

E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR CSCE

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. WEDNESDAY THURSDAY PAPERS FEATURED DOMESTIC
NEWS; SOME THURSDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGE PENTAGON REPORTS US
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MILITARY TRAINING AID IN 34 COUNTRIES; WASHPOST FRONTPAGES

CSCE COMPROMISE READIED ON WAR GAMES. LITTLE COMMENT.

1A. TUESDAY WASHSTAR HAD INSIDE FOUR-COLUMN HEAD, SPIES PACKED SOVIET SALT TEAM. WEDNESDAY PAPERS INSIDE HAD SCHLESINGER ON BUDGET, ALSO TURKS WITHDRAW LIAISON FROM US MILITARY MISSION; PLUS FRANCE READIES UNDERGROUND TESTS IN PACIFIC, ISSUES PERMANENT 30-MILE WARNING.

2. SALT. TUESDAY WASHSTAR LOCAL UPI REPORTED NITZE SAID RUSSIANS FILLED THEIR SALT TEAM WITH SPIES AND TRIED TO SUBVERT AMERICANS WITH DRINK, UPI CITING A RECENT SPEECH AT LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY MADE AVAILABLE TODAY, NITZE ADDING AT LEAST ONE THIRD OF SOVIET SALT NEGOTIATORS HAD WORKED IN KGB AND THEIR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, KISHILOV, WAS A SENIOR KGB OFFICER WHO HAD SOME YEARS EARLIER BEEN THROWN OUT OF FINLAND FOR SPYING. UPI REPORTS NITZE SAID

TASS RENTED A ROOM IN HELSINKI OVERLOOKING US OFFICES AND EQUIPPED IT WITH TELESCOPES, ANTENNAS AND OTHER GADGETS AND IT SOON BECAME APPARENT THAT ALL BUT THE MOST SECURE TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS WERE BEING MONITORED; NITZE SAID WHEN EFFORT TO GET AMERICANS TO DRINK TOO MUCH DIDN'T WORK THEY TRIED FLATTERING INDIVIDUALS IN HOPE OF PLAYING ON POSSIBLE DISAGREEMENTS. UPI ADDS NITZE PLACED MUCH OF THE BLAME FOR LESS-THAN-OPTIMUM RESULTS ON NIXON WHO HAD SUCH A LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN BUREAUCRATIC JUDGMENT THAT NOT EVEN THE HEAD OF DELEGATION WAS KEPT PRECISELY INFORMED OF HAPPENINGS AT HIGHER LEVEL.

3. DEFENSE POLICY. WEDNESDAY WASHPOST GETLER REPORTED SECRETARY SCHLESINGER DREW APPLAUSE FROM MANY MEMBERS OF HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE WHEN HE WARNED THAT FURTHER CUTS IN THE DEFENSE BUDGET RISK MAKING US A SECOND-RATE MILITARY POWER WITH RUSSIANS ACHIEVING MILITARY SUPERIORITY BY 1978-1980. SCHLESINGER SAID US MUST RE-ESTABLISH CONSENSUS ABOUT WHAT KIND OF FOREIGN POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL ROLE IT WANTS. WEDNESDAY WASHSTAR HAD UNSIGNED PIECE SIMILAR SAYING REP. ASPIN CRITICIZED SCHLESINGER'S STATEMENT THAT THE AMOUNT SET FOR DEFENSE AMOUNTED TO 6 PERCENT OF GNP, TERMING IT IRRELEVANT, AND UNCLASSIFIED

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THUS PROMPTING SCHLESINGER'S APPLAUSE-DRAWING RESPONSE.

3A. WEDNESDAY WASHSTAR GUIDRY SAID LINES ARE BEING DRAWN FOR ANOTHER FIGHT IN CONGRESS OVER DOD'S PROPOSALS FOR NEW CHEMICAL WARFARE PROGRAMS. DOD RENEWED LAST YEAR'S REQUEST FOR FUNDING OF BINARY GAS ARTILLERY SHELLS AND MADE A NEW REQUEST FOR FUNDING TO FINANCE NAVY DEVELOPMENT OF A "BINARY BOMB". SEN. MCINTYRE SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED

BY SCHLESINGER'S TESTIMONY THAT PROGRAMS IN CHEMICAL-BIOLOGICAL WARFARE AREA WERE DIRECTED EXCLUSIVELY TOWARD DEFENSE, BUT SAID NEW REQUEST DOES NOT SEEM TO COINCIDE WITH THIS POSTURE.

4. CSCE. THURSDAY WASHPOST NOSSITER LONDON SAYS WESTERN DIPLOMATS ARE READYING A COMPROMISE TO RESOLVE THE THORNIEST CSCE ISSUE, ADVANCE NOTICE OF SOVIET TROOP MANEUVERS, NOSSITER SAYING BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE BUT SOVIET UNION HAS PROPOSED A MUCH LESS COMPREHENSIVE VERSION, AND ADDING WILSON TOLD COMMONS THAT RAPID PROGRESS ON THE TWO OR THREE OUTSTANDING ISSUES COULD LEAD TO A WINDUP THIS SUMMER. NOSSITER REPORTS RUSSIANS HAVE COMPLAINED THAT WESTERN PROPOSAL FOR ADVANCE NOTICE OF MANEUVERS IS A DISGUISED FORM OF ESPIONAGE, BUT THEY

DEMONSTRATED SOME FLEXIBILITY SUNDAY IN ANNOUNCING SOME MILITARY EXERCISES. WASHPOST INSERTS ONE WASHINGTON SOURCE SAID ANNOUNCEMENT CAN BE INTERPRETED TWO WAYS: 1, A HOPEFUL SIGN OF MOVING TOWARD MAKING ALL INTERESTED COUNTRIES AWARE OF FORTHCOMING MANEUVERS; 2, A MESSAGE THAT THIS TYPE OF ANNOUNCEMENT IS ALL THAT THE WEST IS GOING TO GET. NOSSITER SAYS RUSSIANS WANT TO GIVE NOTICE ONLY WHEN 60,000 MEN ARE INVOLVED, WEST ONLY 12,000; RUSSIANS WOULD NOTIFY ONLY NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, WHICH MEANS WARSAW ALLIES, WHILE WEST WANTS ALL 35 NATIONS NOTIFIED; RUSSIANS WOULD REQUIRE NOTICE ON MOVES WITHIN 62.5 MILES OF BORDER, WEST -- WITHIN 437.5, THUS EXTENDING WELL INSIDE SOVIET UNION, ALTHOUGH WEST WILLING TO COMPROMISE. NOSSITER SAYS THE OTHER MAJOR OBSTACLE IS RUSSIAN DESIRE TO PLACE STATEMENT ON INVIOABILITY OF BORDERS IN A CONTEXT WHERE IT MEANS IMMUTABLE, WHILE WEST WANTS IT CLEAR THAT BORDERS CAN BE CHANGED BY MUTUAL UNCLASSIFIED

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CONSENT, ADDING WESTERN COMPROMISE PROPOSAL ON PLACEMENT IS SECRET. NOSSITER ADDS AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON REUNITING FAMILIES BUT NOT YET SETTLED ARE ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE WORKING CONDITIONS FOR JOURNALISTS, WIDER DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS, ALSO PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS, WITH SOVIETS WANTING ALL SIGNERS TO GRANT EACH OTHER MFN TREATMENT. NEGOTIATORS COULD HAVE JULY SUMMIT FOR SIGNING INDICATIVE DOCUMENT, NOT A TREATY REQUIRING 35 RATIFICATIONS.

5. COMMENT. FOUR FEBRUARY EDITORIALS ON SALT SHOW VARIOUS CURRENTS OF PRESENT THOUGHT. DES MOINES REGISTER FEBRUARY 9 REGRETS THAT US AND SOVIET ARE RACING FOR MIRVS, WHILE NEGOTIATORS SHOULD BE STOPPING THAT RACE, AT

AMERICA;S PRESENT 800 IF REDUCTION ISN'T POSSIBLE;
REGISTER SAYS A PAUSE IN MIRV DEPLOYMENT COULD SWEETEN
THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS. MINNEAPOLIS STAR FEBRUARY 3
AGREES WITH REGISTER THAT VLADIVOSTOK CEILINGS ARE TOO
HIGH BUT IT APPROVES THE KENNEDY-MATHIAS-MONDALE APPROACH
WHICH TERMS THOSE CEILINGS AN OUTSIDE LIMIT RATHER THAN
A GOAL TO BE PURSUED AS MR. FORD HAS SUGGESTED.

5A. KANSAS CITY STAR FEBRUARY 7 NOTED THAT THERE ARE
POWERFUL WASHINGTONCRITICS OF SALT PLANS, ESPECIALLY
JACKSON, BUT AMERICAN PUBLIC DEFINITELY WNATS ARMS CONTROL
AGREEMENTS AND IF FORD ASSURES HIS COUNTRYMEN IT'S SAFE
FOR HIM TO SIGN THE FINAL RESULTS OF SALT TWO WITH
BREZHNEV THAT WILL BE GOOD ENOUGH FOR MOST PEOPLE.

SAN DIEGO UNION FEBRUARY 5 SAID SALT TWO HOLDS OUT HOPE
FOR CONTINUED DETENTE, PROVIDED US IS READY TO MAKE THE
INVESTMENT IN TECHNOLOGY AND WEAPONS IMPROVEMENT
NECESSARY TO INSURE OUR NUCLEAR DETERRENT DURING THE TEN-
YEAR PERIOD THE MISSILE CEILING WOULD BE IN EFFECT. KISSINGER

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